

**RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE**  
**Department of Natural Resources**  
**Room 314**  
**June 10, 2003**

Minutes

Member Present:

SOWARDS, Glade **B** Utah Energy Office  
MILLIS, Eric **B** Division of Water Resources  
KLOTZ, Eric **B** Division of Water Resources  
KAPPE, Karl - Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands  
PAYNE, Val **B** DNR/ADMIN  
WINTCH, Kenny **B** School and Institutional Trust Lands  
CANNING, Michael **B** Division of Wildlife Resources  
DALTON, Jamie **B** State Parks and Recreation  
SCHLOTTHAUER, Bill **B** Division of Water Rights  
TABEL, Dave **B** Utah Geological Survey  
GRUBAUGH-LITTIG, Pam **B** Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
GEORGESON, Michael **B** Division of Environmental Quality **B** Drinking Water  
REICKERT, Mike **B** Division of Environmental Quality - Water Quality  
KEENE, Michael - Office of Technology and Science

Others Present:

WRIGHT, Carolyn **B** GOPB/DNR  
LANDURETH, Brenda - DNR/ADMIN  
STODDARD, Scott - U.S. Army COE  
RIGTRIP, Keith **B** Bureau of Land Management  
JENSEN, Steven **B** Salt Lake County  
KLEMM, Sam **B** Wasatch Front Regional Council

**I. Approval of Minutes**

Glade Sowards called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. Michael Georgeson made a motion to approve the May 13, 2003 minutes. Bill Schlotthauer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**II. Special Presentations/Discussion**

Upper Jordan River Restoration Project **B** Scott Stoddard, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Steven Jensen, Salt Lake County

This effort will address eroding banks, water quality and dredging impacts that have resulted from flooding events of the 1980s. The survey, feasibility study and Environmental Assessment (EA) have been completed. There are seventeen individual restoration sites along the Jordan River in areas where stream banks are mass wasting. Habitat and water quality have been impacted by erosion and dredging activities. This project will restore natural 3:1 slope conditions and riprap will be used to stabilize the streambank. Streambank revegetation efforts will include a ten-foot emergent zone. Bill Schlotthauer, Division of Water Rights, asked a few questions regarding the extent of the project, width of the corridor, completion date and the replacement of diversion structures. The project extends from 500 South into the Draper area and the corridor is about 40 feet. The completion date depends on the length of time required to acquire easements and fee titles (six months to a year), construction will begin by early next year followed by three years of

monitoring and adaptive management. Jerry Olds, State Engineer, has issued the stream alteration permit for this project and a permit from Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands is pending. Mike Reickert, Division of Water Quality, asked a few questions regarding the project cost and the total area of the project. The restoration area is 2.5 miles, over a distance of 12 miles and the cost of the project is seven million dollars, including the value of the lands. Salt Lake County will need to acquire conservation easements or fee title restoration for these sites.

### **Long-Range Transportation Plan B Sam Klemm, Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC)**

The WFRC is a metropolitan planning organization. Before states may spend federal dollars on regionally significant transportation projects, all decisions on transportation plans must be adopted by local representatives. The Council consists of 18 local mayors, county council members and county commissioners from Salt Lake, Morgan, Weber, Tooele, and Davis Counties. The council adopts highway, mass transit and corridor plans, and these decisions are binding on the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) and Utah Transit Authority (UTA).

Plan projections are based on population projections, school enrollment projections and employment statistics. This information is used to determine required infrastructure needs to meet future demand. Today, we have 900,000 people in the Salt Lake Valley and in 2030 we will have 1.4 million. In the South Weber/North Davis area, there are currently 250,000 people. This will increase to over 500,000 by 2030. Planning is required to provide needed infrastructure. The Legacy Highway, widening of I-15 and the construction of commuter rail will help to meet these infrastructure needs based on population projections. The Wasatch Front will be facing some real challenges.

Sam Klemm provided some highlights of the Long Range Plan:

A doubling of bus service

Commuter rail from North Ogden to Payson (trains similar to Amtrak) can carry 850 passengers per train

One goal of commuter rail is to remove one lane of peak hour traffic off of I-15

Transit improves highway efficiency by soaking up the peak loads. This improves efficiency during peak hours

One lane of I-15 can handle about 1,800 cars which typically carry approximately 2,000 people.

Improve east/west routes (several examples provided)

Widen existing roads, interstates, and highways

Add new interchanges

Revenue projections are very low compared to past years and UDOT budget cuts have significantly impacted the Plan. About \$75 million per year was cut from transportation by the Legislature.

Project funding projections are down for capital improvements. Several projects will be deferred or taken off the schedule. Transit funding is also down \$400 million dollars over the 27 year life of the Plan.

Through the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), money controlled by WFRC is divided up for the next five. The TIP identifies individual projects to receive funding (e.g. 32<sup>nd</sup> west

reconstruction, 78<sup>th</sup> South widening).

WFRC uses the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) air pollution model's projections for planning. New highway capacity improvements are not permitted unless the anticipated vehicles using the project can be shown to be within air quality standards and regulations. Cars are getting cleaner, which has made a significant improvement in air quality. In 2007, diesel vehicles that are 6 percent of the total vehicle fleet but produce 40 percent of the nitrous oxide pollution, will be cleaned up. Nitrous oxide gas is a precursor for ozone in the Summer and PM-10 in the Winter. New rules will take the rest of the sulfur out of the fuel and require the installation of catalytic converters on diesel engines. The catalytic converters will drastically reduce the levels of nitrous oxide emissions from diesel vehicles.

Modeling efforts help to identify appropriate air quality controls as they relate to transportation planning. If anyone is interested in more detail contact Sam Klemm, of the WFRC at 363-4250.

For the North Davis County portion of the Legacy Highway, projections indicate that there will only be 30,000-40,000 cars each day in 2030. That is not enough to justify a freeway so big interchanges are not part of the plan for that particular facility. The right-of-way for commuter rail from Brigham City, Utah to Payson has been purchased. WFRC is in the process of completing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the two west side light rail lines (Mid-Jordan and West Valley). Completion of the EIS for commuter rail is anticipated in February 2004 after which, money will be requested from Congress for construction beginning in October 2004.

Bill Schlotthauer asked why there are not any east-west light rail routes on the east side of the Salt Lake Valley, except for the University Line. Mr. Klemm responded that residential areas would be severely impacted by any additional east-west routes because it would require the taking of a substantial amount of private property. However, a Sugarhouse line may be constructed, if there is enough money. Some new routes are designed to use existing rail lines. Hubs will be used for buses. Transit-oriented development includes walkable, high-density housing. Roads and rail planning will integrate roads and other transportation hubs. Transit developments are expensive to install, operate and maintain. However, transit is the way to go in high-density developed areas. It is likely that transit lines will not be designed under ground since the cost is seven times more expensive. Some routes will be located in the middle of the street.

Representative Matheson is on the House Transportation Committee. There are 260 rail projects in Washington, D.C. and Salt Lake City is competing with Chicago and Los Angeles to have its project funded. Several other transportation projects were discussed. Tooele is not involved in long-range planning efforts because the requirement is a population of at least 50,000 people. Light rail cars were recently purchased at a good price (\$200,000 each). These transit cars will require rehabilitation. This will save money over the cost of a new rail car which generally run \$2.5 million.

(Handout **B** Communique= WFRC Newsletter)

The 10<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals has identified four deficiencies with the Legacy EIS. UDOT, COE and the Federal Highway Administration are working on these deficiencies. The Supplemental

EIS will be completed in October, approved in the Spring, and construction will begin in the Summer of 2004. The Supplemental EIS will likely be challenged.

Mr. Klemm mentioned that an increase in the sales tax of ¼ cent would probably be on the ballot in Utah County in the next election. If the proposal passes, the money will help fund several Utah County projects that do not presently have funding such as commuter rail to Utah County.

### **Legislative Review of RDCC B John Harja, Department of Natural Resources**

John Harja stated that the Resource Development Coordinating Committee (RDCC) has a sunset date of June 30, 2004. In May 2003, the state legislature extended an invitation to John Harja and Wes Curtis, the State Planning Coordinator, to explain what the RDCC does. The group asked RDCC to return in March or April 2004 to discuss 2002 and 2003 accomplishments. The sunset date was extended to June of 2005. Senator Waddoups and Senator Hickham asked what RDCC has succeeded in accomplishing. RDCC has succeeded in information dissemination and coordination. Next spring RDCC will provide a presentation. John Harja asked the committee to provide comments on what the committee believes the value of RDCC really is and to identify if RDCC or the process can be improved upon. Coordination needs to continue regardless of what is decided about RDCC. John Harja asked the committee for ideas on how to make the committee more effective and to also provide any ideas for statutory changes to improve RDCC. John Harja requested full committee member participation at monthly meetings. The BLM appreciates the committee's participation and input, which eliminates and prevents potential conflicts.

Val Payne suggested that we invite legislators and others to attend RDCC meetings. The committee should identify/list the results of a lack of coordination. Please contact John Harja or Glade Sowards if you have any ideas or comments to make the meetings more interesting and informative. Wyoming managers provide two types of coordination letters, one based on facts and another letter based on opinions/politics. This may be a model for Utah to consider. RDCC is primarily for information dissemination and coordination of facts and opinions to prevent unnecessary conflict. Presentations have been very informative and beneficial. Glade Sowards, RDCC Chair/Utah Energy Office, thanked and commended Carolyn Wright, the RDCC Coordinator, for setting up and coordinating presentations at the meetings.

RDCC received an invitation from consultants to attend a field trip to Emery and Sevier County. The Final EIS will be completed in July. Richfield and Price BLM planning efforts could also be discussed on the trip. Carolyn Wright will look into this.

### **III. Report from Agencies on Any Anticipated Projects**

Bill Schottbauer, Division of Water Rights, announced that the Santa Clara project has been completed. The memorandum decisions on their change applications and their notification for sewage effluent reuse have been met and issued. Secretary Norton has certified the package. EPA approved the right-of-way. BLM may still need to issue the right-of-way. All regulatory requirements have been met. Construction may begin soon.

The Division of Water Rights has streamlined their notices and advertisements in the paper. For

additional information see the website and the 1-866-Uta-h2O.

Pam Grubaugh-Littig, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGM), announced that the end of the second quarter of 2004 for Skyline Mine might result in layoffs effecting over 200 miners in Carbon County.

Michael Georgeson, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Drinking Water, announced that Inlockin would be closing near Wasatch Mountain State Park to renovate drinking water facilities to increase capacity. Monticello and Blanding, Utah, received two million dollars from EPA to replace a drinking water transmission line. The U.S. Forest Services has written an EIS for a project to remove insect infested timber, which did not include sufficient information on the water line. EPA asked DEQ to delay work for them. COE told Monticello, Utah that they needed to hire a contractor to delineate wetlands and to determine if wetlands are a result of pipeline leaks or are jurisdictional wetlands. They are receiving only 40 percent of the water that they should be receiving.

Metropolitan Salt Lake City and Sandy Water Treatment plants had a location and land use conflict. The Spanish Valley project has been completed, which has upgraded their capacity to increase development on the north side of Moab, Utah. They will have a groundbreaking ceremony in one week.

Keith Rigtrip, BLM, announced that the Federal Register notices for Moab and Monticello. Two RMPs will be combined into one EIS. Check the BLM website homepage, Land Use Planning information on the Vernal, Richfield and Price RMPs (current plans and plan revisions). The Vernal planning effort has completed a review of alternatives and has completed the Impact Analysis for the Draft EIS that is due in September 2003. Price and Richfield are currently working on draft alternatives and will be completed by July 2003.

Wilderness planning settlement between Secretary Norton, Department of the Interior, and Governor Leavitt, State of Utah, was announced in the Federal Register. Agencies and managers are still determining the impact that the settlement will have on management and BLM planning efforts.

BLM met with the Escalante group and Wes Curtis in Kanab, Utah, regarding grazing issues in the Grand Staircase B Escalante National Monument. A notice for a grazing EIS with a socioeconomic report will be open for contractor bids by the end of June. The Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (GOPB) may assist with the socioeconomic report, since GOPB assisted with similar efforts for the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). Wes Curtis will check into what RDCC can assist with.

Erik Klotz, Water Resources, reported that their division is actively involved in the BLM and USFS planning efforts.

Scott Stoddard, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, described the two branches of the (COE), the Regulatory and the Water Resources Planning Branch, COE. The COE is working on several projects (submitted via email):

Upper Jordan Sec. 206 Plans and Specs - Salt Lake County - Steve Jensen

Mill Creek Flood Reduction Project (Upper Jordan GI) - Salt Lake County  
 Ashley Creek Sec 1135 Ecosystem Restoration P&S - Uintah County  
 City Creek Ecosystem Restoration Project- Salt Lake City - Ron Love  
 West Jordan Sec 206 (Jordan River) - Paul Coates, City of West Jordan  
 Park City Env Infrastructure Project - Tom Bakaly/Jerry Gibbs  
 RAMS - Park City Mines Water Treatment - Jerry Gibbs/Kathy Gambles  
 Utah Hazard Mitigation Plans - Ryan Petramali/Nancy Barr  
 Tooele Army Depot Trans. Study - Jeff Principe/Dorinda Ware  
 Ute Tribe - Green River Endangered Species Sec 206 PRP - Mike Montoya  
 Logan Floodplain Study - Bill Young  
 PAS - Utah Hazard Mitigation Team (HMT) Input - Ryan Petramali  
 Project Impact - Provo City - Tricia Porter  
 EPA Project Review (SFO) - EPA - Mohammed Razazaian  
 Annabelle FPMS Study (conversion to FIS pending FEMA funds)  
 Cache County (Nibley) Env Infrastructure (502 WRDA 99) B Larry Anders  
 River Restoration Research Project B Desert Research Institute B Jennifer Duan  
 Emergency Levee Inspection B South Dave Treatment Plant (Biannual)

COE completed a flood hazard analysis for Snow Canyon in Layton, Utah at the request of state emergency management. A similar analysis will be completed in Dry Canyon in Logan, Utah. Five or six other restoration efforts are ongoing around the state (West Jordan, City Creek, Ashley Creek and others.)

Val Payne, Department of Natural Resources, is coordinating comments on *Reference Post 13 Interchange and City Road Final EIS* growth project in Washington County please submit comments to him by June 18, 2003.

#### **IV. Review of Proposed Items as Listed on the Project Management Library**

Project Management Library item #2944 Moab/Monticello is a Notice of Intent (NOI) and additional information will follow. For these planning efforts, provide oil, gas and coal information directly to BLM. The committee may receive requests for information. The NOI regarding the implications of the decision on wilderness on the BLM plans for Vernal, Price and Richfield will no longer consider wilderness study areas (published last week). The Department of the Interior (BLM) can no longer create Wilderness Study Areas or manage lands for wilderness. Please let John Harja know if any wilderness issues or concerns arise. BLM is correctly evaluating Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) rather than replacing ACECs for wilderness areas. Val Payne DNR is pleased about the approach taken by the Vernal planning effort. Keith Rigtrip mentioned that guidance on wilderness issues would be arriving from Washington, D.C. in three separate memos.

#### **V. Miscellaneous Items**

Glade Sowards commended Carolyn Wright for coordinating guest presentations. Please submit any suggestions for presentations to Carolyn Wright. Wyoming has a specific review process for facts and opinions, which are sorted and handled separately. Pam Grubaugh-Littig, DOGM,

recommended that a facilitated discussion might help to generate additional input from the committee.

John Harja mentioned that JBR Consulting would like to schedule a RDCC field trip in July to Emery and Sevier Counties. This will also provide an opportunity to discuss some Richfield and Price planning issues.

Glade Sowards announced that in July the Utah Energy Office would be undertaking a strategic planning process. Please contact Thomas Brill if you have any ideas regarding balancing UEO mandates.

John Harja thanked everyone for comments on the Vernal RMP. Extensive comments were received from several agencies (SITLA, UGS, UDWR, DOGM). Very few comments conflicted. John Harja and Val Payne discussed these comments with the BLM last week. Alternatives for Richfield and Price will be completed this summer.

There are several cooperating agency agreements:

All BLM planning efforts

Working on Forest Service Plans

- GOPB is working on the socioeconomic

Possible Movement of Atlas Tailings Pile (Moab, Utah)

Grand Staircase Monument Grazing EIS

- GOPB may be involved in the socioeconomic

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, will be announcing their decisions on the roadless area conservation rule. Alaska will be dropped from the rule because they have a different statutory scheme. A new rule will allow waivers could be used for various forest health, outdated information and maps, sustainable yield. The process for formally requesting waivers has not been determined.

## **VI. Adjournment**

Pam Grubaugh-Littig, DOGM, volunteered to bring donuts at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. The next meeting will be held on June 10, 2003, at 9:00 a.m., at the Department of Natural Resources, in room 1010.